6/Prior art Statement
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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

PAUL CLIFFORD REID

Serial No.: 10/044,721

Filed: January 14, 2002

For: FENCE SUPPORT

Group Art Unit: 3629

Examiner: Lynne H. Browne

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

To the Commissioner of
Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This is an Information Disclosure Statement which lists prior art that may be considered of interest in the examination of subject Application.

This Information Disclosure Statement should not be construed as a representation that an exhaustive search of the prior art has been conducted or that other material information as defined under 37 CFR §1.56(a) may not exist.

It is submitted, however, that this Statement complies with the requirements of 37 CFR §1.56, §1.97 and §1.98 and the Manual of Patent Examining Procedure, Section 609. If, for any reason, the Examiner to whom this Application is assigned for examination considers otherwise, it is respectfully requested that the undersigned be contacted so that any deficiencies can be corrected.

The following documents are submitted herewith:

1. U.S. Patent No. 1,773,519, of Cox, which issued August 19, 1930, is directed to an adjustable universal top and arm fitting for tubular and solid fence posts. The patent discloses a top casting 2 having a base socket 3 which may be of any size appropriate to fit the post 1 being used. An arm 10 which is angularly adjustable extends upwardly from casting 2 and is provided with three slits 16 for positioning wires plus three tongs 17 for being bent over to hold the wires.

2. U.S. Patent No. 2,161,944, of June 13, 1939, to Bauer, is directed to a fence structure wherein a housing C is received over a fence post A. An arm D extends upwardly at an angle from housing C which receives barbed wires G via clips 16 at apertures 15.

3. U.S. Patent No. 3,028,147, of April 3, 1962, to Crumbo, is for an adjustable barbed wire support assembly for fences. The top of a fence post 12 receives a post top 14 to which an arm 20 which is angularly adjustable is received. Arm 20 is provided with a plurality of wire retaining slots 46.

4. U.S. Patent No. 3,749,368, of July 31, 1973, to Miller, is for a hinged loop cap member adapted to be fitted on the top of a fence post to support a horizontally extending fence top rail. The cap may also include a wire strand supporting arm which includes barbed wire supporting notches 26, 28 and 30.

5. U.S. Patent No. 3,776,522, of December 4, 1973, to Bartlett, is for a fence post construction which is composed of a moldable plastic material. The post is preferably made by extrusion of extra-strength polyester resins and fiberglass, is hollow and triangular in cross-section. The portion of the post received below ground has a plurality of apertures or holes 16 for drainage and to permit contraction expansion during periods of thawing. The portion of the post above ground has a multiplicity of individual fencing wire holders which are referred to in

the patent as "slot means." These are provided across a vertex of the triangular cross-section of the post.

6. U.S. Patent No. 4,065,103, of December 27, 1977, to Sweezey, is for a fence attachment. A fence post 10 has an upright member B which has depressible gripping member 17 for securing barbed wire strands 18. Member B is clamped to the post by a clamping arrangement comprising a vertical angle A via a shank D.

7. U.S. Patent No. 4,159,820, of Parisien, which issued July 3, 1979, is for a fastener for securing a fence post cap to a channel type post. A barbed wire arm 42 has hooks 44 to receive strands of barbed wire 46. Arm 40 has a base 48 in the form of a rectangular box which is open on one side and adapted to be received in the upper end of the post where it is held in place by a bolt 54.

8. U.S. Patent No. 4,520,231, of May 28, 1985, to Hubbell, is directed to a safety cap for fence posts. Safety cap 2 is for T-shaped fence posts. It has an elongated generally hollow body 4 as seen in Figures 1 and 2. Body 4 has an opened end 6 and a cover 8. A plurality of ribs extend inwardly to grip the T-shaped post. Legs 30 and 32 extend outwardly from cover 8 which include a pair of lugs 38 and 40 that have recesses 42 and 44 dimensioned to receive an electric wire. The safety cap 2 is hammered onto the T-shaped fence post. The body, cover, ribs which grip the T-shaped post, and the lugs which receive the electrified wire are composed of a white polyethylene.

9. U.S. Patent No. 4,680,428, of July 14, 1987, to Wilson, Jr., is for an electric fence insulator cap, which is composed of high impact plastic such as polyethylene. Cap 10 has a tubular body and is closed at one end by a rounded top 14 which, however, has a flat central portion 18 designed to receive hammer blows as the cap is installed on a metal post. A wire

retention means 24 is provided in the form of a pair of spaced lugs 26 and 28 which project outwardly from the tubular body 12 in a parallel alignment with each other and also with two pairs of internal ribs. The cap is driven onto the post being guided by the co-action of one of the pairs of ribs 64, 66 or 68, 70. The patent discloses posts having both a U-cross-sections and a T-cross-sections wherein the cap can be driven onto either type of post.

10. U.S. Patent No. 5,662,313, of September 2, 1997, to Forrester, is directed to an angular extension which is fitted to a fence post and comprises an arm which is angularly disposed relative to the post and has means for clamping barbed wire to the arm. The means for retaining the barbed wire comprises slots 26 which are oriented diagonally so that wire can be easily inserted therein when it is slack, but cannot be removed after it has been tightened. The arm 20 is connected to the fence post 14 by a fastener 34 such as a carriage bolt which is received through aligned holes in tabs 28.

11. U.S. Patent No. 6,045,099, of Aiken et al, issued April 4, 2000, and is for a support member for use in constructing electrified fences. A post or pole 16 receives a support member 10 composed of an electrically non-conductive material which is preferably a single piece of extruded plastic. Post or pole 16 is mounted from ground 18. A worm mesh 38 is received over adjacent flat surfaces 34 and 36 of adjacent support members 10. Wires 40 and 42 are passed through apertures 28 and 30. Mesh 38 is secured to support members 10 by staples. Wires 40 and 42 and mesh 38 are electrically isolated from each other and from pole 16. The purpose of

this fence construction is to prevent animals such as squirrels from entering locations such as transformer substations.

Respectfully submitted,

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